

Dewar's Imperial

*The Scotch Whisky
of Great Age*

SYDNEY v. PYRMONT.

This match, played on Sydney Cricket Ground No. 2, was very keenly contested. Sydney, by adapting themselves to the bad condition of the ground, were able to outclass their opponents. Sydney adopted the short passing movements which always prove successful on a muddy field. Great credit must be given Sydney, con-

sidering Pyrmont are at the top in their division, and are acknowledged to be the best combination in the Metropolitan area this season. Sydney were leading 1 to nil at the interval, and from the commencement of the second half Pyrmont were called upon to defend, but Sydney were not to be stopped, and piled up another 6 goals in quick succession. Melliar Smith, as outside left, made some brilliant runs up the line, and proved himself to be still the best outside left in New South Wales.

The fact that on numerous occasions he beat such versatile players as Loveridge and Allan Fisher proves his ability. Robinson, Sydney's centre half, also played a wonderful game in liquid most of the time. His control of the ball under these conditions was at times inspiring to watch.

Pyrmont were outplayed, and the best team on the day won to the tune of 7-2.

LINESMAN

The Soccer News

Vol. I.—No. 15

SYDNEY, AUGUST 5th, 1922.

Price Twopence.

The Soccer News

EDITORIAL.

STANDARD OF PLAY.

The progress of the game in the different centres outside of the Metropolis is a constant source of satisfaction to those who have been entrusted with the management of Soccer football in this State.

At Newcastle the game is going ahead by leaps and bounds. Record entries are being received, and it seems certain that the round ball game has taken on, both as regards the players and the public. Last Saturday a record for Newcastle in a club game was established; the people could not be accommodated, as far as the stand was concerned, and yet it is a new stand, and cost £1300 this year to erect.

The only takings to eclipse this one are the takings at the final of the Gardiner Cup in Sydney last year.

The standard of play as between Newcastle and Sydney has often been the cause of much argument, but it appears that the coal city is at present able to claim the honors.

This year Newcastle representative teams beat the South Coast, and beat the Metropolis. In the latter game, even upon retrospection, one cannot but say that the eleven selected that day to represent Sydney was anything but a very good one.

The Newcastle Juniors have also in a recent interchange of visits secured the honors against the Metropolitan Juniors. In addition to this weight of evidence, we have the fact that a Newcastle team—West Wallsend—won the Gardiner Cup last year.

Alongside of Newcastle is the growing South Maitland district, which supplied the winners of the State Championship in 1918.

A representative team from this district in no unmistakable fashion defeated at Kurri Kurri the Australian team which toured New Zealand by three goals to nil. This game certainly was played on a ground all against the tourists, and all for the

locals; still the win was a commendable one, and should do much good for the game in that district.

On the South Coast, too, there are many worthy exponents. Queensland has been defeated two years in succession by representative teams there. The Coast produces a more rugged type than does Sydney, and has not perhaps reached our standard of play. Still on their home grounds the teams from this area are very hard to beat. The State Junior Championship went that way last year, Woonona defeating Two Blues.

The fact that the standard of play in Newcastle, and Maitland, is at least equal to ours should give us food for thought. We have many more players, and have, generally speaking, better playing areas to play upon.

The question naturally arises: Are all our best players playing in the First Division and even in the Second Division? If they are not, we are in danger of producing too many players of the mediocre type. While every player of average ability can, without extra effort, find a place in a Senior team, we can expect no improvement in the standard. We have too many teams which cater for First Graders. We have too many in which are included men worthy of First Grade football. The position is serious, and merits the consideration of all those interested in the control of the game.

If we desire to get the big public support, we must prove ourselves worthy of it. We must evolve a plan which will have the effect of securing all the best players in the First Division of the First Grade, so that onlookers at our best matches may see the best exponents of the game in action.

ENGLISH SOCCER TEAM.

Meeting, N.Z. Association.

(From New Zealand Times, Wednesday, 12th July.)

A special meeting of the New Zealand Football Association was held

last evening, Mr. C. Fordham presiding, for the purpose of receiving a report from the finance committee on the proposals regarding the suggested tour of an English team in Australia and New Zealand.

£1000 OFFER TO AUSTRALIA.

The committee's report stated: "The matter was fully considered, and eventually it was decided that the best policy to adopt would be to take over the team from Sydney and back to Sydney, paying all expenses in New Zealand, and offer £1000 towards the cost of fares from England.

Mr. B. L. Salmon said the Commonwealth F.A. wished New Zealand to pool £3000 for the proposed tour, but the committee felt they could not recommend the council to agree to that. There was also the question of whether the tour should be arranged for 1923 or 1924. A suggestion had also been made that it would be better if the New Zealand return visit to Australia was made prior to the visit of the English team.

WOULD COST £4000.

Mr. A. Menzies moved the adoption of the report, and said that 1924 would suit New Zealand better if the arrangements for 1923 were not too far gone. They would like to consolidate Soccer football in New Zealand next year, and to visit Australia. They considered that £1000 towards the fares would be a fair thing rather than pool with the Commonwealth F.A. The N.Z.F.A. would rather run the tour in the Dominion itself. They were prepared to shoulder any loss that might result in New Zealand, but not losses which might eventuate in Australia. With the proposed itinerary New Zealand would get more matches, four Saturdays and four Wednesdays. Taking the revenue on a conservative estimate, they would require £3500. Of course a British team would be a big attraction, playing the English national game, and 2/- should be a minimum charge for a tour of this description. On this basis they would want the following guarantees:—Auckland, £800; Wellington, £1000; Canterbury, £500; Otago, £900; Southland, £350; Manawatu, £200; Taranaki, £300; Wanganui, £250; a total of £4300. Against that they put the cost of grounds at £850, leaving £3450 to meet the cost of the tour. They had estimated at 2/- for admission, and 5/- on the grandstand at Wellington. It had been proved that they could attract the gates, and it would pay the ground holders to lend the grounds, for the Test match gave the Rugby Union £30 more than if they had played leading teams there. On the estimated receipts and expenditure they would have a credit balance of £500. Australia would miss

a great opportunity if they did not accept that offer. They would do better by taking £1000, which would pay 25 per cent. of the fare of the English team to Sydney.

A GOOD OFFER.

Mr. H. Graves seconded the proposition, and said he thought £1000 would be of great assistance to them in connection with the fares. He thought the N.Z.F.A. should undertake the responsibility for the British team while in the Dominion, and he thought the tour would be a financial success.

Mr. Menzies said it would only be necessary to put up about 60 per cent. of the guarantees in cash.

The chairman said they would probably have to give £1000 before the team left England.

Mr. Graves pointed out that a Rugby and also a League tour had been mentioned for 1923 and 1924.

Mr. Salmon said they should point out that possibly there would be two Rugby teams visiting New Zealand also.

The report and recommendation were then put and carried unanimously.

MR. STOREY'S APPEAL.

ENGLISH TOUR WANTED BADLY.

Mr. S. Storey, assistant manager of the Australian team, and secretary to the N.S.W. Football Association, now joined the meeting, and said he had come to New Zealand mainly for the purpose of discussing the tour of an English team. In Australia they felt that Soccer would not make much progress until they had had a visit from an English team. Once they could say conclusively that a British team was coming, there would be a growing interest taken in Soccer, and people would attend the games to get a knowledge of what they were going to see. They wanted the tour in 1923 because the Rugby League were not having a tour in 1923, but an English team was coming out in 1924, and they could not afford to tour an English Soccer team in the same year as a Rugby team, as the latter would overshadow them. If they could arrange it for next year they felt sure it would be a success, for the English Northern Union had cabled that they would not send a team in 1923.

THE INVITATION GONE.

The invitation had been sent by the C.F.A. to England to send out a team in 1923, and the matter was being considered by the International Board. If the board agreed that they were willing to send a team, provided that £1000 was found, then the invitation must be accepted. There must be no more dilly-dallying, as there had been in the past in Australia. That invitation was with the authorities, and they must be ready. The C.F.A. was forming itself into a limited liability company to protect itself, to enable it to make contracts, and to allow it to issue debentures and protect debenture holders.

COST OF THE TRIP.

An estimate had been prepared on general lines by Cook's, and, taking first-class fares throughout, via Suez, the figure was £486 each. Taking a team of eighteen players and a manager, that would amount to £8234, and the balance of the £11,000 would be for advertising expenses and expenses not otherwise provided for. He could not say what kind of team would be sent out, but Mr. Gibbs, the New Zealand and Australian representative to the English Football Association in London, said it was not possible to send a professional it would be an amateur team. It meant that if they could put up £11,000 by September 30th, 1922, they would be able to meet any calls which might be made upon them. After mentioning the amounts of guarantees required from the different States in Australia, Mr. Storey said that they asked New Zealand to guarantee £3000, the same sum as New South Wales was putting up. New South Wales would have two Saturdays and one holiday match, as would Queensland, and New Zealand would have four Saturdays, and seven or eight matches could be arranged. There were only fifteen Saturdays in the itinerary, of which four were offered to New Zealand, and on the basis of four-fifteenths, New Zealand's share of £11,000 would be £2930. If the Suez route was taken the team would be able to play at various centres on their way out.

MUST GO ON.

If New Zealand decided that it could not join Australia, they must go on with it, as they had committed themselves; but they thought that the New Zealand Football Association should come in for the sake of the game in the two Dominions. It meant that New Zealand would get a team for £3000, which would otherwise cost them £9000 to obtain, although if they ran it themselves they might have a longer tour. If the N.Z.F.A. thought they should have one more Saturday, he thought C.F.A. would consent. They desired to pool all the gates, and share the profit or loss pro rata. If the N.Z.F.A. did not care for that, they would consider anything it would put up. Australia wanted the team, and would meet New Zealand in any direction to get it. They considered the ground at Sydney would not be large enough to hold the crowd. The people of Australia had their hearts set on the business, and were pinning their faith on him to make New Zealand people see it as they did.

INTERNATIONAL GAMES WANTED.

The time was ripe, and the signs were that Soccer would soon be predominant if the management took the bull by the horns and gave them international games. Auckland could not get good gates for club matches, yet for the test match had a gate of something like £500. At Dunedin the gates far exceeded their expectations, and he thought that to get £1000 for two matches was remarkable, since there had been no inter-

national visit since 1904. If the English Association did not send a team in 1923 they must try to get it at the earliest possible moment.

In reply to Mr. Menzies, Mr. Storey added that Mr. Gibbs said the team would probably consist of University men.

Mr. Menzies: I think we desire an amateur team.

Mr. Storey said the estimate for Cooks did not include transport from hotels to grounds, or tips at hotels or on steamers. The second estimate for second-class on steamers was £210s less per man, and would amount about £600. Regarding the number of men, three gentlemen saw Mr. Wall, secretary of the English Football Association, in London, and he said that eighteen men and a manager would be enough for the tour. Mr. Salmon said that Mr. Wall told him in London that the professional clubs would not let their men go on tour, but there would be no difficulty in getting an amateur team, which would give them as good a game as they wanted.

THE DECISION.

After further discussion, the decision previously come to was intimated to Mr. Storey.

Mr. Menzies, in doing so, congratulated Mr. Storey on the way he had handled his pet subject, and said the N.Z.F.A. was not in favour of pooling with the C.F.A. They agreed with the pooling, when the bodies were affiliated under one head, but they were not affiliated to or represented on the C.F.A., and they felt that the affiliated associations would not permit them to pool with the C.F.A. The proposal of the N.Z.F.A. was to take over the British team entirely at Sydney, tour them through New Zealand playing four Wednesday and four Saturday matches, and take them back to Sydney. New Zealand would be responsible for all expenditure from Sydney until they reached Sydney again, including local fares, and were prepared to deposit £1000 with the C.F.A. as an offset against the cost of bringing the team from England to Sydney. Mr. Storey said he thought the proposition a very fair one, and it commended itself to him. He thought they had advanced a good step forward, and he would be pleased to take such a concrete proposition across the water.

It was understood that if the English team did not come in 1923 satisfactory arrangements could be made for the return visit of the New Zealand team to Australia.

TO CONTRIBUTORS.

Please note that all matter for publication in the "Soccer News" should be addressed—
"THE EDITOR,"
SPORTS CLUB,
HUNTER STREET,
to reach there not later than Tuesday in each week by 5.30 p.m.

FIXTURES FOR SATURDAY, AUGUST 5th, 1922.

FIRST GRADE.

First Division.

Pymont Rangers v. Eastern Suburbs, Centennial Park, 3.15 (S. Rose).

Pymont v. Gladesville, Wentworth Oval, 3.15 (S. Allen).

Balmmain Fernleigh v. Balmmain Gladstone, Easton Park, 3.15 (J. Lester).

Granville v. Canterbury, Clyde Oval, 3.15 (D. McKinnon).

Second Division.

Burns Anniversary v. Lithgow, Ibrox Park, 3.15.

Auburn v. Sydney, Wentworth Oval, 1.45 (W. Alexander).

Campsie Thistle v. Commonwealth Dockyard, Canterbury Road, 3.15 (D. Brown).

Lancashire Society v. North Sydney, Beauchamp Park, 3.15 (L. Gill).

SECOND GRADE.

A Division.

Manly v. Punchbowl, Brookvale Oval, 3.15 (R. Burns).

Annandale Altona v. Metters Ltd., Mascot Park, 3.15 (A. Bates).

Gladesville v. Hornsby Athletic, Wahroonga Grammar School (W. Neil).

Sunlight v. N.S.W. Fire Brigade, Easton Park, 1.45 (J. McDougall).

Botany Albion, the bye.

B Division.

Parramatta District v. Abbotsford District, Brereton Park, 1.45 (S. Freeman).

Two Blues v. Drummoyne, Rosehill Park, 1.45.

Callan Park v. Rozelle Rovers, Callan Park, 1.45 (E. Lukeman).

St. George District v. West Sydney, Cook Park, 3.15 (H. Read).

Hurstville United, the bye.

C Division.

Pymont Rangers v. Garden Is., Ibrox Park, 1.45 (G. Fooks).

Punch Park v. Railway Thistle, Brereton Park, 1.45 (A. King).

Metters Ltd. v. Gladesville Hospital, The Hospital, 1.45 (C. R. Brown).

Botany Albion receive forfeit from Annandale Altona.

JUNIOR FIXTURE FOR PRIM-ROSE PARK No. 1.

Corrimal A v. Marrickville Avoca, 3.15 (G. Skelly).

Leichhardt v. Annandale, 1.45 (H. Cockwell).

FIXTURES FOR SATURDAY, AUGUST 12th, 1922.

FIRST GRADE.

First Division.

Pymont Rangers v. Balmmain Gladstone, Easton Park, 3.15.

Pymont v. Eastern Suburbs, Centennial Park, 3.15.

Balmmain Fernleigh v. Granville, Wentworth Oval, 3.15.

Canterbury v. Gladesville, Campsie Rec. Park, 3.15.

Second Division.

Burns Anniversary v. Commonwealth Dockyard, Ibrox, 3.15.

Auburn v. Balmmain Scottish, Wentworth Oval, 1.45.

Campsie Thistle v. North Sydney, Canterbury Road, 3.15.

Lancashire Society v. Sydney, Mascot Park, 3.15.

SECOND GRADE.

"A" Division.

Annandale Altona v. Gladesville, Brereton Park, 1.45.

Botany Albion v. Sunlight, Easton Park, 1.45.

Metters Ltd. v. N.S.W. Fire Brigade, Booralee, 3.15.

Hornsby Athletic v. Punchbowl, Punchbowl, 3.15.

Manly, the bye.

"B" Division.

Parramatta Dis. v. Rozelle Rovers, Parramatta Park, 3.15.

Two Blues v. St. George Dist., Cook Park, 3.15.

Callan Park v. Hurstville United, Callan Park, 1.45.

West Sydney v. Abbotsford Dist., Ibrox Park, 1.45.

Drummoyne, the bye.

"C" Division.

Pymont Rangers receive forfeit from West Sydney.

Punch Park v. Metters Ltd., Mascot Park, 1.45.

Railway Thistle v. Gladesville Hospital, The Hospital, 1.45.

Botany Albion v. Garden Island, Lyne Park, 3.15.

PLAYERS WANTED.

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POT SHOTS.

Neil had difficulty in keeping his feet in the northern goal.—Then why didn't "Neil kneel."

"Two Blues met their masters in Balgownie.—Yes, "J. Masters" forward, and "H. Masters" back.

The referee complained that in the second match no lines were visible.—Probably the first team "dribbled" so much they washed out the markings.

Thompson "cut" through the defence.—Did he use a "blade" of grass to cut with.

Weeks missed an easy chance in front of goal.—Weeks was weak.

Sydney's runaway win from Pyrmont.—A bolt from the blue.

How shall we describe the Fernleigh-West Wallsend match, Fernleigh gone "west" or Fernleigh gone to the "wall."—Anyway, Fernleigh have come to their "end."

Burns at Lithgow. Field flooded.—Generally, you get "burns" from "bush fires" not "floods."

Granville's forward line "swept down" the field.—After the heavy rain, it needed a clean up.

Fisher, Dane and Leabeater "fell out" of the interstate team, and will not go north.—When they fell out, they must have got "scratched," so will not "start."

Kerr met the rebound, and netted Gladstones' only point.—The Kerr.

Sydney got the Blues last Saturday.

The Magpies held the upper hand.—Their palmy day!

M'Mahon broke away on the right wing.—Took a little flutter.

Thirroul took exception to the ruling of the referee.—Against Thirroul.

Vic Paling, as goalkeeper, is well known.—A paling (de) fence between the posts.

Two Blues defeated Cockatoo.—Got the bird.

Granville defeated Balmain Gladstones by 3 to 1.—Taking the Glad out of the Gladstones.

The goalie "punched" the ball which struck "Judy" Masters and rebounded into goal.—Punch and Judy.

NURSE CUP.

Mr. S. E. Cope, hon. sec. of the I.D.S.A., forwards the draw for the First Round of the Nurse Cup as follows:—

Woonona Park v. Coledale.
Balgownie v. Sydney.
Woonona I. v. Canterbury.
Corrimal v. Granville.
Woonona II. v. Parramatta District.

Helensburgh, Balmain Gladstone, and Thirroul each have a bye.

NOTES FROM GLADESVILLE.

On Saturday last the Soccer enthusiasts of Gladesville had the pleasure of witnessing the two local teams in action at Brereton Park.

The B Team played the early match against N.S.W. Fire Brigades, defeating the last named team by one goal to nil.

The A Team, who were also successful, played their deferred match against the Pyrmont Rangers, running out winners by what may be safely stated to be the highest score in first grade football this season—11 goals to 2.

The early game was the most interesting one from the spectators point of view, both teams striving their hardest to win.

Though the game was in Gladesville's favour most of the time, they were prevented from adding to their score by the excellent play of the Fire Brigades goalie.

The only goal of the match, scored by McIvor, was the result of a very creditable piece of individual play. Although Fire Brigades battled hard for an equaliser, they were beaten at every attempt by Gladesville's defence.

For the winners, Brown, Graham and Jennings ably defended whilst McIvor and Fowler were the pick of the forward line. Bryson, a new player for the team, also showed up favourably.

In the second match, which was very ragged, Gladesville's A Team had no difficulty in beating Pyrmont Rangers, the heavy score against the Rangers being a true reflex of the game.

T. S. ELLIOT.

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DID YOU KNOW THAT:

A. Atchison (Granville), N.S.W.'s goalkeeper in Queensland, visited that State in 1914 as goalkeeper for a N.S.W. schoolboy team.

A. Fisher, C. Leabeater, W. Dane, and S. Robinson could not make the trip North owing to the difficulty of securing leave at present. Also that J. Crum (Pyrmont), G. Storey (Balmain Gladstones) and Williams (Cessnock) have been selected in their places.

The First Test is being played at Brisbane to-day.

The "ashes" at present are in the keeping of N.S.W.

The N.S.W. team won the First Test in Brisbane last year by 4-1, and that Jack Maitland scored three of the goals. Will history repeat itself?

The Nurse Cup First Round draw is out.

The Cronin Cup committee are inviting entries.

Burns Anniversary played a draw with Lithgow last week, and replay to-day at Ibrox Park.

Sydney and Auburn are fighting hard in the Second Division, and that the result of to-day's match will have a big bearing on the position of teams in that competition.

From to-day onwards a member of the Protestant Churches Referee's Association will sit on the Management Committee, and also on the P. & D. Committee. At the time of going to press no definite name had been submitted, but it is rumoured that Mr. L. Scott, of Abergeldie Street, Dulwich Hill, is likely to be selected.

A team has been formed at Comboyne (near Taree), and that the Northern Districts' Association are exchanging visits this season.

There is one at Harden, A. J. Murphy, 17 Railway Cottages, Harden, Hon. Sec.

The game is going ahead at Tamworth. Their application to the N.S.W. F.A. for a match had to stand over owing to railway arrangements.

Saturday, 5th August, 1922.

Easton Park, 3.15.

BALMAIN FERNLEIGH v. BALMAIN GLADSTONE

REFEREE: MR. J. LESTER

Balmain Fernleigh
(Blue and Gold Halves)

G. Cartwright

1—R. Leadbetter 2—H. Batten

5—J. Adams 3—S. Storey

4—E. Ferrier

11—F. Baxter 8—J. Fisher

6—G. Turner

9—F. Hancock 10—F. Yabsley

Reserves:

A. Law S. Johnson

Balmain Gladstone
(Black with Gold V)

W. Hughes

11—J. Murray 2—G. Fitzpatrick

4—L. White 3—R. White

5—W. Byers

6—H. Gowen 9—E. Bolus

12—J. Hodgkiss

8—M. Kerr 10—C. Brennan

Early Match, 1.45.

REFEREE: MR. J. McDOUGALL.

SUNLIGHT

(Blue and White Stripes)

N.S.W. FIRE BRIGADES

(Black with White V)

Centennial Park, 3.15.

PYRMONT RANGERS v. EASTERN SUBURBS

Referee: Mr. S. ROSE

Pyrmont Rangers.
(Blue with Gold Sashes)

F. Anderson

1—S. Robinson 2—E. Thomas

3—G. Kelso 5—J. Reid

4—H. McAlister

6—T. Cooper 7—E. Robinson

8—W. Moore

9—E. Hopgood 10—C. Graham

Reserve:

C. Johnson

Eastern Suburbs
(Red, White and Blue)

W. Burroughs.

1—G. Smart 2—W. B. James

3—A. P. Harry 5—A. V. Hunter

4—A. Manuel

6—W. G. Foulds 7—J. R. Thomas

8—A. Gallagher

9—T. Stacey 10—W. Baker

Early Match, 1.45.

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PROGRAMME

Saturday
August 5, 1922.

Wentworth Park Oval—3.15 p.m.

Referee : Mr. S. ALLEN.

Linesmen : Messrs. E. JONES and C. DALLISON.

PYRMONT v. GLADESVILLE

PYRMONT

(Blue)

Goalkeeper

R. McDonald

Fullbacks

12—A. Fisher

2—S. Anderson

Halves

4—J. Gray

13—W. Britton

5—C. Timm

Forwards

3—E. Loveridge

9—J. Burcham

6—A. McLean

8—S. Alewood

10—R. Osbourne



6—Robertson

8—Henson

10—Murray

7—McFarlane

9—Dodds

Forwards

3—P. O'Hara

4—H. Gay

5—White

Halves

1—Waldgraves

2—J. Lyons

Fullbacks

J. McNee

Goalkeeper

GLADESVILLE

(Red)

Wentworth Park Oval—1.45 p.m.

Referee : Mr. W. ALEXANDER.

AUBURN v. SYDNEY

AUBURN

(Blue)

Goalkeeper

L. Evans

Fullbacks

1—C. Perkins

2—T. Amos

Halves

3—W. Ashby

4—J. Tranter

5—J. Picken

Forwards

7—W. Hagedorn

9—D. Reid

6—S. Bourke

8—A. Malcolm

10—V. Davies



6—P. Neilson 8—J. Sherringham 10—J. Mellier-Smith

7—N. Charlton

9—G. Glachan

Forwards

3—Bates

4—Robinson

5—Forrester

Halves

1—H. Graham

2—G. Montgomery

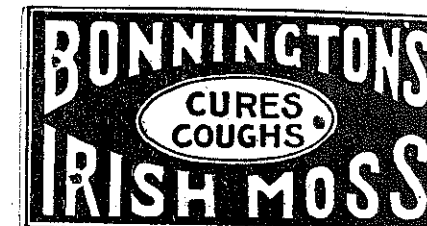
Fullbacks

V. Paling

Goalkeeper

SYDNEY

(Blue and Black Stripes)



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Friday and Anzac Day.

PROTESTANT CHURCHES ASSOCIA- TION.

St. Aidans A and Lachlan Rangers A put up the game of the season on Waterloo Oval last Saturday. At half-time the scores were 0-0, and the dale boys had visions of repeating their previous performance of a draw. In the second spasm, however, the Rangers proved their superiority. Harry Free netted two goals for his team. The first shot was from a penalty. L. Morgan and H. Free were the best of two good teams on the day's play. This was the only first grade match, for the L.O.L. 46 v. Lakemba Meth. A match was postponed owing to the bad condition of the ground. Austral Waratah A and Chalmers City have withdrawn from the competition. The ground fees of these teams are slightly in arrears.

To-day, St. Aidans A should have no difficulty in accounting for L.O.L. 46, as should Austens F.C. do for All Saints.

There was nothing of a sensational character in either division of the second grade, except, perhaps, that Balmain Pres. drew with Lachlan Rangers B, the score being 1-1. J. McIlheny and H. Arnott were the best on the day. Enmore Tabs and Leichhardt Meth. played a 3-3 draw at the Flat. The Maroon boys should have won easily, but they continually mulled the ball in front of their opponents' goal. Dulwich Hill Bap. A v. St. Aidans B did not come off as the ground was under water. Lakemba Congs. A towelled up Alex. Mission alright, though in all fairness it must be said that the Mission only had nine men.

To-day, Balmain Pres. should keep Dulwich Hill Bap. A on the move. In fact, it would be no surprise if O'Donnell & Co. were to penetrate the defence of Walker and Daniels. St. Aidans B and All Souls A also meet to-day, and a good game should result. However, I rather favor the Two Blue team in this match.

In the "B" Division, Austral Waratah B could only manage a draw with St. Johns. 2-2. St. Albans put it all over St. Andrews, 8-0, as did Alex. Congs. do to St. Albans (Ultimo) in a non-competition match.

To-day Alex. Congs will need to look to its laurels for Dul. Hill Bap. B state they are going to win. At any rate the late match on Wardell Rd. No. 2 should be very interesting, and whoever wins will need to be all out. St. Albans and St. Annes should have comfortable wins, though Hurlstone Park Congs. will find St. Johns a hard nut to crack.

St. Bedes had a close call from one of the weakest teams in their grade last week—All Souls B. There was no score at half time, and in the second half, though play was mostly in All Souls area, it was not until about 3 minutes before full time that Goodsen, for St. Bedes, headed one in. Once in the second half Kitchen got away on his own, but the weak shot he sent in gave Simons no trouble at all. McMinn and Horn were the best on the day. W. Gibson, at centre half, played a solid game, one of his best qualities is that his position is centre half, and he keeps it and does not try to fill a couple of other possies at the same time. Tempe Park. Meth. put it all over Austens Jnrs., though if this team could have shot, the result may have been different.

Lakemba Congs. B managed to defeat Botany Meth. 2-nil, on the ill-fated field that Jack Fleming met with his accident. Just to keep up the reputation of the ground, Jonighi, of Lakemba Congs., early in the game broke his arm. St. Oswalds are waking up for they defeated Lakemba Meth. B last week. Wonder how they'll fare to-day against the Lakemba Congs. B?

Players will be glad to hear that F. P. Crook, of St. Oswalds, who has been an inmate of the Balmain Hospital with a badly broken wrist, is up and about again. He wishes to publicly thank Dr. Brodie Grant and the nursing staff of the hospital for their services.

DRAW FOR SATURDAY, AUGUST, 1922.

FIRST GRADE.

Austens F.C. v. Will. St. phens, Waterloo, 1.45.
Lachlan Rangers A v. L.O.L. 46, Waterloo, 3.15.
St. Aidans A v. All Saints, Hurlstone Park, 3.15.
Lakemba Meth. A, the bye.

SECOND GRADE.

"A" Division.

All Souls A v. Enmore Tabs, Fivedock, 3.15.
Leichhardt Meth. v. Lakemba Congs. A, Wardell Road No. 2, 3.15.
St. Aidans B v. Alex. Mission, Hurlstone Park, 1.45.
Lachlan Rangers B v. Dul. Hill Bap. A, Ascot, 3.15.
Balmain Pres., the bye.

SECOND GRADE.

"B" Division.

Alex. Congs. v. Newtown Congs., Centennial Park, 3.15.
Austral Waratah B v. St. Albans, The Flat, 3.15.
Dul. Hill Bap. B v. St. Andrews, Centennial Park, 1.45.
St. Johns v. St. Annes, Wardell Rd. No. 2, 3.15.
Hurlstone Park Congs., the bye.

THIRD GRADE.

All Souls B v. Tempe Pk. Meth., The Flat, 1.45.
St. Albans v. Lakemba Meth. B, Lakemba, 1.45.
St. Bedes v. Lakemba Congs. B, Fivedock, 1.45.
Botany Meth. v. St. Oswalds, Wardell Rd. No. 2, 1.45.
Austens Jnrs., the bye.

INTER-DIVISION.

Lakemba Meth. A v. Balmain Pres., Lakemba, 3.15.
Hurlstone Park Congs. v. Austens Jnrs., Wardell Road No. 2, 1.45.

The new secretary of M.C. Club is Mr. F. Knight, W. street, Brookvale.

The Flashlight of 5th June Sargent's Cafe, was taken by Leigh Studios, 176 Pitt St., Sydney.

Saturday, 5th August, 1922.

Clyde Oval - 3.15.

GRANVILLE v. CANTERBURY

Referee: Mr. D. McKINNON.

Granville
(Black and White Stripes)

1—G. Dane 2—E. Doherty
3—C. Leabeater 4—J. Comrie
5—H. Spurway
6—W. Dane 7—H. Winter
8—W. McCrae
9—F. Ramsay 10—F. Fairweather
Reserve:
L. Leabeater.

Canterbury
(Blue and Gold Stripes)

Hatcher
1—R. Smith 2—J. Shipley
3—D. McLennon 5—C. Lauder
4—L. Stobie
6—J. Thirwell 7—H. Chapman
8—T. Wardhough
9—G. Milner 10—L. Hippisley
Reserves:
11—T. Forbes 12—Edwards

Early Match, 1.45.

GRANVILLE ASSOCIA- TION.

With the exception of one match in the Junior, Two Blues v. Kewpies, which was abandoned on account of the Rosehill ground being under water, all the other fixtures were carried out.

In the Juvenile, Carlingford continued their winning career by defeating West Ryde, 1-0. This win puts Carlingford in the final. They have still to play Two Blues, but the result will not affect the position, as both have qualified.

Lidcombe and Rovers met at Parramatta Park, but the Stone Masons were too hard for the Rovers, 3-1.

Two Blues and Kewpies met at Clyde in the early match. The game was a fairly good one, considering the state of the ground. Blues made their claim on the final more secure, winning 1-0. Geo. McGrath, a former Magpie, had charge of the "tooter."

The All Age produced no surprises, with, perhaps, the exception of the West Ryde-Arnotts match. Although Arnotts have come along very fast, it was not expected they would be any match for Ryde. Beaten by only 1 goal, they put up a great fight. This team are still in the "Cottam," and it is just possible they will win.

Holroyd were too good for St. Johns Park. Royds appear to be getting a former grip on the final. Their opponents will be Kewpies, and a great game should result.

Volunteers, who also have a good chance, met United at Parramatta, and won, 4-2.

Lidcombe, still on the up grade, gave Rangers no chance in a 3-1 game.

The State Junior Championship match, Auburn District Juniors and Kewpies, was played at Clyde. With the exception of a couple of bad patches, the ground was in fairly good order.

The game was a good one, in spite of the mud and water, the Auburn boys having a little better of the play throughout. The result was a two-goal draw. The replay is to take place this Saturday at Clyde at 1.45 p.m. Bentley Hyslop was the referee, and gave satisfaction throughout.

A pleasant little function was held at the residence of Secretary Fred Robertson, on Monday night, the occasion being a "send-off" to Ted Atchison, Magpies' goalkeeper, who left for Queensland with the State team on Wednesday.

A number of Ted's friends turned out to wish him good luck in the North. He was presented with a nice little cheque to tide him over the holiday.

Keen regret was expressed when it was announced that Will Dane, Harry Spurway and Charlie Leabeater were unable to make the trip.

Kewpies under 18 have withdrawn from the Competition. Kewpies like horses better than footballs, although they are under 18.

The draw for the second round of the "Cottam Cup Comp." was drawn on Tuesday night, and resulted:—

Arnotts v. Volunteers or West Ryde.

Auburn v. Kowpies or United.

Fixtures for to-day are:—

JUVENILE.

Carlingford v. Two Blues, Carlingford, 3.0.

Rovers v. Congregational, Parramatta, 3.0.

Kewpies v. West Ryde, Dundas, 3.0.

ALL AGE.

Arnotts v. West Ryde, Auburn, 3.15.

Lidcombe v. Holroyd, Lidcombe, 3.15.

Rangers v. United, Blaxcell Street, 3.15.

Volunteers v. St. Johns Park, G'ville Park, 3.15.

THE REFEREE.

(By MAC).

All the "Laws of the Game" having been dealt with, I now come back to that part of Law 1, "Dimensions of the Field of Play, &c.," which was purposely omitted when this Law was previously considered, and I trust the Law will be carried out by all Clubs, and vigorously enforced by the Association, next season. I have noticed many breaches of the Law this season, and have heard of many more.


"The dimensions of the field of play shall be: Maximum length, 130 yards; minimum length, 100 yards; maximum breadth, 100 yards; minimum breadth, 50 yards." The size 115 yards by 75 yards is the most general.

"The field of play shall be marked by boundary lines. The lines at each end are the goal-lines, and the lines at the sides are the touch lines. The touch lines shall be drawn at right angles with the goal lines. A flag with a staff not less than 5 feet high shall be placed at each corner. A half-way line shall be marked out across the field of play. The centre of the field of play shall be indicated by a suitable mark, and a circle with a ten yards radius shall be made round it."

Flagstuffs with pointed tops must not be used.

The touch and goal-lines must not be marked by a V-shaped rut.

Short flagstuffs are dangerous, hence the minimum height of 5 feet.

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SC 1

(Continued from page 11).

The Referee must not allow a corner flagstaff to be removed even for the convenience of the player taking a corner kick.

The goal-line must be marked out from corner to corner, including the goal.

A half-way line is necessary on all grounds.

The one yard area within which the corner kick must be taken must be marked out.

The goals shall be upright posts fixed on the goal-lines, equidistant from the corner flagstaffs, eight yards apart, with a bar across them eight feet from the ground. The maximum width of the goal posts and the maximum depth of the cross bar shall be five inches.

The surface of the bars or posts facing the field of play or otherwise must not be more than five inches in width. Tape or any substance not of a rigid nature, must not be used in the place of a bar. Goal nets are strongly recommended.

The goal posts and bars should be painted white so as to be distinctly seen. The corner flags should be light coloured. The goal nets should be properly pegged down and in order before every match and there should be no holes or possible openings for the escape of the ball.

Any player willfully displacing a flag or goal post or bar is guilty of misconduct, and the Referee must caution the offender, and if the offence is repeated, the player should be ordered off the field of play.

"Lines shall be marked six yards from each goal post at right angles to the goal lines for a distance of six yards; and these shall be connected with each other by a line parallel to the goal lines; the space within these lines shall be the goal area."

"Lines shall be marked 18 yards from each goal post at right angles to the goal lines for a distance of eighteen yards, and these shall be connected with each other by a line parallel to the goal lines; the space within these lines shall be the penalty area. A suitable mark shall be made opposite the centre of each goal 12 yards from the goal line. This shall be the penalty kick mark."

The circumference of the ball shall not be less than 27 inches, nor more than 28 inches. The outer

casing of the ball must be of leather, and no material shall be used in the construction of the ball which would constitute a danger to the players."

The ball should be supplied by the home club, and reserve ball's, fully inflated, should be kept close at hand.

I trust the above instructions will be adhered to, as, so far, breaches have been very noticeable, even on our best grounds.

In concluding the "Laws of the Game," I trust great benefit has been derived therefrom, and that the result will be favourable to all concerned.

In looking through previous issues of the "Soccer News," I find some interesting information, and more on that in question will not be out of place here. Twenty-six clubs are named as having won the English Cup, but I can name another winner, in the very early days of the Cup, and a Scotch Club at that. At one time all Clubs could compete for this trophy, and although Queen's Park (Glasgow) won the Cup, it was not presented to them, for many reasons, which, to say the least of it, were far from sporting, and Scotch clubs were debarred from future competition. It is interesting reading, and perhaps I will give the story in full in next season's issues.

Another matter is that referring to the Lectures Board, and the statement is made that "it is a long time since the Referees have inaugurated lectures, although once upon a time the Referees' Association used to send out representatives to give lectures at the various club meetings. A start might be made again, especially on account of the difference of opinion amongst the Referees themselves, as to how rules should be interpreted. In reply thereto, the Referees Association have had a Lectures Board at the disposal of clubs desiring its services, for (to my knowledge) over nine years, and consists of referees who are appointed an-

nually. Certainly clubs could avail themselves to a greater extent of this necessary feature to the control of the game, and I pointed out the benefits to be derived therefrom in my notes in a previous issue. It must be understood that I am not at variance with the critics in question on the matter of a Lectures Board, but I must say that there is very little difference of opinion (if any) on the "Laws of the Game" existing amongst referees, and when a difference does arise in the Association the point is debated and Referees stand by the decision.

In another issue the Referees' Association is wrongly condemned by the Junior Association, when in fact the Referees' Association is a good friend to the junior body, and had that body acted upon the recommendation of the Referees' Association they would have been in a much better position to-day. They have themselves to blame for any trouble arising out of appointments of Referees.

Apropos football facts and figures in various issues, the record crowd and gate at any game anywhere is held by "Soccer," and the attendance was close on 150,000. Scotland v. England at Hampden Park, Glasgow. I will quote the correct figures and gate money later.

I mentioned a little matter some time ago relative to our P. and D. Committee, and find that ours is not the only P. and D. Committee in existence, as in a game in the old country a protest was lodged against a certain player, the protest was dismissed, the fee refunded, and the player suspended till the end of the season. Gilbertian, I think. On the same question, and as a warning to delinquent clubs here, a protest was upheld against a club which failed to furnish a list of players prior to the match, according to rule.

Next week I will have something to say about barracking, amongst other things.

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RESULTS FOR SATURDAY, 29th JULY, 1922.

N.S.W. STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.
(Gardiner Cup).

Lithgow Thistle v. Burns Anniversary, Lithgow—scoreless draw.
Wallsend v. Kurri Kurri, at Kurri.
Two Blues v. Balgownie, Wentworth Oval, Wright—Balgownie, 4-3.

West Wallsend v. Balmain Fernleigh, Hamilton (Newcastle)—Westy, 1-nil.

Thirroul v. Adamstown, Woonona, Adamstown—4-nil.

Pymont v. Sydney, Sydney Cricket Ground, Lukeman—Sydney, 7-2.

Granville v. Balmain Gladstone, Wentworth Oval, Jones—Granville, 3-1.

M.S.F.A. PREMIERSHIP.

FIRST GRADE.

First Division.

Pymont Rangers v. Gladesville, Brereton Park, Lester—Gladesville, 11-2.

Second Division.

Commonwealth Dockyard v. Lancashire Society, Ibrox Park, Skelly—Dockyard, 7-nil.

SECOND GRADE.

"A" Division.

Manly v. Botany Albion, Booralee Oval, S. Hayes—Botany Albion, 5-1.

Anandale Altona v. Hornsby Athletic, Easton Park, W. Alexander—Altona, 2-1.

Metters Ltd. v. Punchbowl, Mascot Park, S. Allen—Metters Ltd., 2-1.

Gladesville v. N.S.W. Fire Brigade, Brereton Park, Freeman—Gladesville, 1-nil.

Sunlight, the bye.

"B" Division.

Parramatta Dist. v. Callan Park, Callan Park, G. Fooks—Two Blues v. West Sydney—deferred.

Drummoyne v. Abbotsford Dist., Easton Park, O'Toole—Abbotsford, 4-3.

Hurstville United v. Roz. Rovers, Ibrox Park, McKinnon—Drawn, two all.

St. George District, the bye.

"C" Division.

Pymont Rangers v. Punch Park, Sydney Cricket Ground, Gill—Rangers, 6-1.

Railway Thistle v. Garden Island, Lyne Park, Peaty—Garden Island, 5-2.

Gladesville Hospital v. Metters Ltd., The Hospital, Hargett—Gladesville, 3-nil.

Linesmen, Wentworth Oval: J. McDougall and C. R. Brown; both attended.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE.

TEAM.	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Goals.							
Pymont	11	10	1	0	33	9	20
Bal. Fernleigh ..	12	10	2	0	31	11	20
Granville	11	6	3	2	24	10	14
Bal Gladstone ..	11	5	5	1	21	17	11
Pyr. Rangers ..	11	5	6	0	13	17	10
Gladesville	11	3	5	3	18	30	9
East. Suburbs ..	12	1	8	3	16	38	5
Canterbury	11	0	10	1	14	35	1

SECOND DIVISION.

TEAM.	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Goals.							
Bal. Scottish ..	12	8	3	1	43	17	19
Sydney	12	8	1	3	28	16	17
Com. Dockyard ..	12	7	1	3	20	11	17
Auburn	12	7	1	4	37	14	15
Burns Anniy ..	12	5	4	3	26	15	14
Campsie Thist. ..	12	3	3	6	15	25	9
North Sydney ..	12	2	1	9	18	36	5
Lancas. Socy. ..	12	-	-	12	8	68	-

SECOND GRADE.

A Division.

Teams.	P.	B.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts
Goals.								
Annan. Alt. ..	12	2	8	2	2	31	15	22
Horn. Ath. ..	12	2	7	2	3	32	15	20
Sunlight	12	2	6	1	5	20	16	17
Gladesville ..	11	2	5	1	5	18	24	15
Metters Ltd. ..	12	2	5	1	6	20	19	15
N.S.W. F.B. ..	12	1	5	1	6	20	28	13
Manly	11	1	4	2	5	19	22	12
Rot. Alb.	11	1	5	-	6	22	25	12
Punchbowl ..	13	1	2	2	9	17	35	8

B Division.

Teams.	P.	B.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts
Goals.								
West Syd.	12	1	0	1	2	41	13	21
Callan Pk.	12	2	7	3	2	39	16	21
F'matta Dis. ..	12	2	7	2	3	29	16	20
Two Blues	10	2	7	2	1	48	6	20
H'ville Unit. ..	13	1	7	1	5	23	26	17
Roz. Rov.	13	1	5	4	2	22	21	16
Abbot. Dis.	12	2	2	1	9	15	37	9
Drummoyne ..	12	1	2	1	9	13	49	7
St. Geo. Dis. ..	11	2	1	1	9	11	57	7

C Division.

Teams.	P.	B.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts
Goals.								
Pyr. Rangers ..	12	2	11	1	-	51	6	27
Garden Is.	12	2	9	2	1	35	14	24
Punch Pk.	13	1	9	1	3	44	29	21
G'ville Hosp. ..	12	2	3	3	6	15	19	13
Rail. Thist.	12	2	3	2	7	18	34	12
Bot. Alb.	12	2	2	3	7	10	34	11

METROP. JUNIOR FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION.

JUNIORS.

In the early fixture at Primrose Park No. 1 on Saturday, on a sodden ground, Canterbury and Arncliffe tried conclusions, and a ragged, uninteresting game finished with 1-0 in favour of Canterbury. The Arncliffe team were unfortunate, and should have won the

game, many opportunities being nullified by the forwards. The Canterbury team, who were out for victory, in order to hold their division, played a good game, but consider themselves lucky to get off with a win. The late fixture between Marrickville and Lilyfield for the first hour was productive of good football; then the Marrickville weight gradually wore the opponents down, until in the closing stages Marrickville outclassed their opponents.

The outstanding features of a match was the fine glimpses play by both goalies. Ogle, local boy, brought off a beautiful save from a penalty kick by Stevenson, in the Lilyfield city played with his customary and his beautiful clearances a treat to see; on one occasion saved three successive shots, being rebounds after his saves.

The Lilyfield forwards, Dunn and Lilliblad, played a combination, but were too light on the Avoca eleven Heterick, in half back line, played his best this season, whilst Heagney, Russell and Wright played in the usual style, the latter always on hand at the right time.

The results of these games at Canterbury and Marrickville were even points at the head of the division, and a final will be necessary to decide who shall meet the winners of the other division, the First Division, for the Premiership.

FIXTURES FOR AUGUST 12th, 1922.

Charity Cup.

FIRST ROUND.

Kogarah A v. Lilyfield A, Primrose Park No. 1, 3.15.
Dulwich Hill v. Dulwich Hill Athletic, Primrose Park No. 1, 1.45.
Canterbury Juniors v. Kogarah B, Goodlet Park, Canterbury, 3.15.
Marrickville v. Brighton United, Crescent Oval, 3.15.
New Crusaders v. Hurlstone Park, Goodlet Park, 1.45.
Lilyfield B v. Annandale Altona, Deferred.
Leichhardt v. Arncliffe.—Deferred.

Competition Matches.

B GRADE.

First Division.

City Y.M.C.A. v. Stanmore, Camperdown Park, 3.15.
Balmain v. Punchbowl, Belmore Road, Punchbowl, 1.45.
Newtown v. Leichhardt, Primrose Park No. 2, 3.15.
S. T. Leigh forfeit to Annandale.
Lilyfield B, the bye.

Second Division.

Bankstown v. Kogarah, Cook's River No. 1, 3.15.
Marrickville, forfeit to Penshurst.

Campsie Thistle v. Canterbury, Charles St., Canterbury, 3.15.

Arncliffe v. Campsie Old Boys, Campsie Rec. No. 2, 3.15.

Greenacre v. Dulwich Hill Athletic, Liverpool Road, Bankstown, 3.15.

C GRADE.

First Division.

Bankstown v. Marrickville Rovers, Primrose Park, 1.45.

Punchbowl v. Penshurst Rechrables, Ramsgate, 3.15.

Dulwich Hill Athletic v. Arncliffe, Crescent Oval, 1.45.

Bankstown Athletic v. Kogarah, Ramsgate, 1.45.

Canterbury Juniors, the bye.

Second Division.

Sydney Juniors v. Banksmeadow, Erskineville, 1.45.

Pymont Juniors v. Leichhardt, Cook's River No. 1, 1.45.

Glebe United v. Balmain Kia-Ora, Annandale, 1.45.

St. Peters Kangaroo v. Rozelle, Albion Park, 3.15.

Moore Park, forfeit to Annandale.

Third Division.

Glebe Arcadia v. Pymont, Erskineville, 3.15.
St. Peters v. Annandale Rovers, Annandale, 3.15.
Ark of Safety v. Lilyfield, Algite Park, 1.45.
Botany v. Camperdown Y.M.C.A., Cook's River No. 2, 3.15.
Birchgrove v. Rose Bay, Cook's River No. 2, 1.45.

LETTER BAG.

Dear Sir,

Allow me space in your journal to ask what is the N.S.W. Soccer Football Association doing in the selection of a N.S.W. team to tour Queensland. Here, in Auburn, we have a senior and junior team which possess some of the best players the State could find. Bourke, the right wing man, is no doubt the very best man in the State in that position. Yet the selectors have not even given him a chance to show his superiority over the men which have been chosen to represent this State against New Zealand and Queensland. When Queensland played Granville District last month Bourke scored 2 goals out of 3, yet he has been overlooked. I ask is this encouraging to any player. I think it is enough to turn any player to look for some other sport where he could get better treatment at the hands of the selectors.

I ask the N.S. Wales Soccer Football Association to be fair to its players worthy of selection.

I hope this little comment may make some impression on the selectors and the association.

Let me add as a reminder to the N.S. Wales Soccer Football Association that here, in Auburn, the people are great lovers of the game, and if it is to be fostered, the players who supply the sport will have to be considered and receive better treatment.

P. M., Auburn.

* * *

Dear Sir,

Referring to Gardiner Cup tie. Pymont v. Sydney played at S.C.G. No. 2, this day. My task

as referee would not be complete without requesting that your Association place on record the wonderful spirit in which the game was contested. At no time during the 90 minutes play was there a deviation from the orthodox, honest tactics, and only on three occasions was it necessary to penalise for offences of the nature one could score a goal direct. Once for hands, once for tripping by a Sydney player, and once charging a Sydney player from behind.

Considering the state of the ground, this constitutes a record in my experience. Sydney are to be congratulated, but the losers (Pymont) more so, for one expects vigorous methods when a team is up against it, particularly in "sudden death" competition.

Such conduct is meritorious, a personal compliment to the referee, and sincerely appreciated by

Yours faithfully,

ERN LUKEMAN,

Referee.

BALMAIN FERNLEIGH v. WEST WALLSEND.

NOTES FROM NEWCASTLE.

The game here last Saturday was a great exposition. Both teams played beautiful Soccer throughout, and they played to a wonderful audience—a record for Newcastle in a club game—who cheered throughout for both teams through sheer appreciation of the wonderful Soccer that was being played. Fernleigh's best was Cartwright, who played finely, and created a great impression; Batten and Leadbetter were great; Hancock was the best forward on the field. Phillips did not appear suited in the centre-forward position, while Turner, though a good individual player, did not combine well with his mates. Baxter did not impress, while Yabsley was patchy. Porter was the best half on the field while Ferrier, though on the slow side, is sure and heady.

Saturday, 5th August, 1922.

Ibrox Park, 3.15.

BURNS ANNI- v. LITHGOW
VERSARY (—)
(Navy Blue)

Early Match, 1.45.

Referee: Mr. G. FOOKS.

PYRMONT RANGERS v. GARDEN ISLAND
(Blue with Gold Sashes) (—)

Brereton Park, 3.15.

REFEREE: MR. S. FREEMAN.

PARRAMATTA v. ABBOTSFORD
DISTRICT DISTRICT
(Red) (Black and White) ..

REFEREE: MR. A. KERR.

PUNCH PARK v. RAILWAY THISTLE
(Black and Gold) (Red and Green Stripes)

THE IMMENSE POPULARITY OF ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

Its Ever-increasing Attraction for the Masses.

By SYDNEY HORLER.

I am writing this on one of the hottest days in the year. True, it is early autumn, but the heat is almost overpowering. The sun, high in a heaven of unruffled blue, is streaming into my room. Through the open window, a moment ago, I heard the hum of voices raised in argument. Idle curiosity drew me from my seat. "Those weak spots in the forward line will have to be strengthened, or—." The speaker, a tall, thin man, with the face of a reformer, waved his hands agitatedly.

"Get away!" replied his stocky companion. "Old Joe's all right!"

I waited until I heard the name of a certain more or less famous team mentioned, and then turned

away. The two men had been talking about football! Football, with the sun scorching the earth and those who dwell upon it! FOOTBALL—with the mercury nearly jumping out of the glass!

Let us examine the astonishing fact that on such a day two men could be found arguing about a winter pastime. A closer analysis will disclose that there is nothing extraordinary in the proceeding. There is no "close season" for the football follower. When he is not harking back to what his favourite team did last season, he is speculating what they will do in the coming tourney. You cannot alienate the affections of the true enthusiast; he will be polite, and come with you to a cricket match or a tennis tournament, but if you watch him closely, you will see that after a while he will be staring into space. His thoughts are for the bonny days of September, when the big brown ball will bounce, when the clash of football factions will stir his blood and make him feel at friendship with the world once again.

Association football has caught this country in a fast grip. Typically British in character, it is indisputably the great national

It makes a more sure appeal to man in the street than even To begin with, it claims a measurable advantage over sport of kings inasmuch as it is more accessible. To go to a meeting requires money and—especially the latter—while Smith or Harry Jones can go to the nearest tramway-car and some of the finest football in the country within half an hour is, if they live in a big city.

The faint-hearted said the late War would kill the interest in professional football. Never there a bigger fallacy. So far last season being a failure, the most successful year in the football world has ever been. Records of all sorts were broken and these, in turn, will most probably be broken afresh in the season which will have commenced by the time these lines are in light.

The War, instead of killing football, fostered it. Thousands either watched or played the game themselves while they were in the Army, and, fascinated by the returned to civil life with the great winter game stirring their hearts.

Many reasons might be given for the tremendous, almost unbreakable, hold that football has upon the public, but I think the primary reason why nearly all quarters of a million people in England alone went every day last season to see the big professional teams play is because the stirring game seized the imagination of the masses. Even to-day the majority of the latter lead a life of sordid workaday living, such, the stimulating excitement of a first-class football match is a transportation into another world—a world of choking colour, drama, and swift action—a couple of hours they are able to forget their sorrows; the magic of football—for the game possesses in anything like the degree—brings into their lives excitement, interest.

(To be continued.)

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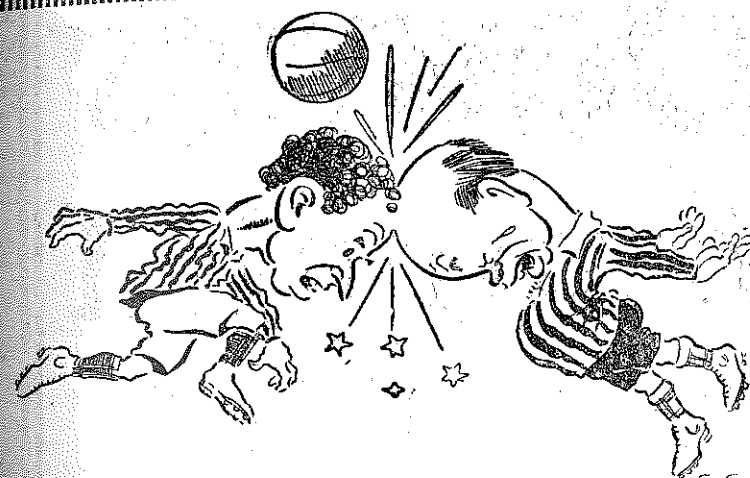
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